



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS TAYLOR (FFG 50)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS TAYLOR (FFG-50)
To: Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C. (OP-09BH)

Subj: USS TAYLOR (FFG-50) 1994 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) USS TAYLOR Command Composition and Organization
(2) 1994 Chronology
(3) 1994 Command History Narrative
(4) USS TAYLOR Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(5) Ship's Photograph

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded.


GREGORY J. CORNISH

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COMDESRON EIGHT w/encl

USS TAYLOR (FFG-50)
COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS TAYLOR is a multi-mission guided missile frigate capable of performing a variety of roles. The installation of the Naval Tactical Data System (NTDS), the Tactical Towed Array Sonar System (TACTAS), LAMPS MK III helicopters, and MK 92 Mod 6 Fire Control System gives TAYLOR a combat capability far beyond the initial expectations for the FFG-7 class. The Air Department is composed of an SH-60B LAMPS MK III helicopter detachment from HSL-42 Detachment Nine based at Naval Air Station Mayport, FL.

USS TAYLOR is assigned to Destroyer Squadron Eight. TAYLOR is part of the Naval Surface Forces, United States Atlantic Fleet. The ship is homeported in Mayport, FL and is commanded by Commander Gregory J. Cornish, USN.

COMMAND HISTORY 1994

CHRONOLOGY

01JAN-12JAN	LEAVE AND STANDDOWN
13JAN-25JAN	TRANSIT ATLANTIC OCEAN
*23-25JAN	OPERATIONS WITH FRENCH FORCES
26JAN	ROTA, SPAIN
27JAN-28JAN	TRANSIT TO ADRIATIC
29JAN-04FEB	SNFL/EMBARGO OPERATIONS
05FEB-06FEB	TRANSIT TO NAPLES, ITALY
06FEB-13FEB	INPORT NAPLES, ITALY
14FEB-24FEB	OPS ADRIATIC
25FEB	ENROUTE VENICE, ITALY
26FEB-28FEB	INPORT VENICE, ITALY
01MAR	ENROUTE CORFU, GREECE
02MAR	AT ANCHOR, CORFU, GREECE
03MAR-04MAR	ENROUTE ATHENS, GREECE
*04MAR	UNDERWAY TURNOVER WITH COMTE DE GRASSE
05MAR-09MAR	AT ANCHOR, PIRAEUS W/ USS BOSTON
10MAR-17MAR	OPERATIONS IN EASTERN MED W/ USS SARATOGA
18MAR-21MAR	INPORT AKSAC-KARAAGAC, TURKEY
22MAR	ENROUTE LARNACA, CYPRUS
23MAR-26MAR	INPORT LARNACA, CYPRUS
27MAR-29MAR	UNDERWAY EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN
30MAR	SOUTHBOUND TRANSIT SUEZ CANAL
31MAR-04JUN	MARITIME INTERDICTION OPERATIONS, NORTH RED SEA
*15-18APR	INPORT HURGHADA, EGYPT
*26-30APR	INPORT HURGHADA
05JUN	NORTHBOUND TRANSIT SUEZ CANAL
06JUN-07JUN	ENROUTE PALMA, SPAIN
08JUN-11JUN	INPORT PALMA, SPAIN
11JUN-20JUN	TRANSIT ATLANTIC OCEAN
21JUN	BSP BERMUDA
22JUN-23JUN	ENROUTE CHARLESTON, SC
24JUN	INPORT CHARLESTON, SC
25JUN-16AUG	POST DEPLOYMENT STAND DOWN AND IMAV
*15AUG	SHIFT HOMEPORTS OFFICIALLY TO MAYPORT, FL
16AUG	UNDERWAY FROM CHARLESTON, SC
16AUG-19AUG	TRANSIT TO MAYPORT
19AUG-21AUG	INPORT MAYPORT, FL
22AUG-26AUG	UNDERWAY FLORIDA STRAITS, OPERATION ABLE VIGIL
27AUG	BSF/MIGRANT DROP-OFF GUANTANAMO BAY
31AUG-22SEP	UNDERWAY FLORIDA STRAITS, OPERATION ABLE VIGIL
23SEP-03OCT	LEAVE AND UPKEEP, MAYPORT, FL
04OCT-14OCT	UNDERWAY CHARLESTON OP AREA
05OCT	WEAPONS OFFLOAD CHARLESTON
06OCT	UNDERWAY ENROUTE MAYPORT
07OCT	OFFICIAL ARRIVAL TO MAYPORT FOLLOWING CHANGE OF HOME PORT
08OCT-13OCT	IPT MAYPORT
14OCT	DEPENDENT'S CRUISE
15OCT-25OCT	UPKEEP, MAYPORT, FL
26OCT-31DEC	SRA IN MAYPORT, FL
*02DEC	CHANGE OF COMMAND

NARRATIVE

In a polar opposite of her schedule last year, TAYLOR deployed on 13JAN to the Mediterranean Sea for MED 1-94. As TAYLOR crossed the Atlantic Ocean she conducted operations with the SARATOGA Battlegroup- including the two Aegis Cruisers PHILIPPINE SEA and VICKSBURG, the Destroyer ARTHUR W. RADFORD, the Oilers MONONGAHELA and MOUNT BAKER, the Submarines CINCINNATI and BOSTON, and the frigate CARR. Once near Europe, the Battlegroup engaged French forces in wargames. The French detachment included two frigates, a destroyer, an oiler, and a submarine. TAYLOR's embarked helicopters provided quick identification and assured victory in the scenario. Once the imagined hostilities ceased, the French forces joined the Battlegroup for joint operations. TAYLOR resupplied with the French ship SOMME before a brief stop for fuel in Rota, Spain. TAYLOR assumed SNFL duties from USS THORN (DD-963) as the United States representative in the embargo enforcement off the coast of the Former Republics of Yugoslavia.

TAYLOR spent her first weeks on station engaged in operations in the Adriatic Sea. TAYLOR departed the area with a nighttime transit through the straits of Otranto, transiting on the fifth and sixth of February to Naples, Italy. Enroute, TAYLOR conducted gunnery exercises before passing through the Straits of Messina.

TAYLOR pulled into Naples on 6 February and moored alongside the Destroyer Tender, USS YELLOWSTONE. TAYLOR departed Naples on Monday, 14 February to rejoin the Standing Naval Forces, Mediterranean. After transit, TAYLOR spent the 17th to the 24th of February operating in the Adriatic Sea before heading north to Venice, Italy. TAYLOR remained there from 26 to 28 February.

On the first of March TAYLOR pulled into Corfu, Greece to get some last minute jobs done with the USS YELLOWSTONE. The ship pulled out of Corfu that same day to rendezvous with the COMTE DE GRASSE. TAYLOR conducted a one day at-sea turnover and headed south into the Aegean for a port call in Athens, Greece. In Athens, the ship anchored in Piraeus Harbor and the submarine USS BOSTON moored alongside.

TAYLOR operated with the USS SARATOGA in the Eastern Mediterranean before a scheduled port call in Aksaz-Karaagac, Turkey from 18 to 21 March. During this port call, Turkish naval VIP's visited TAYLOR and the ship demonstrated her capabilities to the dignitaries who were considering the purchase of Oliver Hazard Perry class vessels. TAYLOR got underway and proceeded to Larnaca, Cyprus where she stayed from 23-26 March.

TAYLOR hosted a bevy of diplomatic events during the port call to Larnaca, a small port city on the south coast of Cyprus. The festivities began when the President of Cyprus, the U.S. Ambassador, several high ranking Cypriot diplomats, and their entourage boarded the ship by helicopter and police boat while TAYLOR was still at sea. President Glafcos Clerides and U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus, Richard Boucher, witnessed a demonstration of the ship's capabilities and then rode TAYLOR into port. The official party was given an extensive tour of the ship, including the main engineering spaces, the Combat Information Center, the Bridge, and the main decks. The visitors were able to witness a Close In Weapons System firing, high speed maneuvers, and enjoyed TAYLOR's finest dining before disembarking the ship with full military honors. The following night, TAYLOR hosted a reception on her flightdeck for Ambassador Boucher and several Cypriot ministers, including Costas Eliades, Minister of Defense. The assembled dignitaries again enjoyed TAYLOR's hospitality. Other events during the visit included a basketball game against the Cypriot National Guard, a picnic and tour of the TAYLOR with the Cypriot-American Association, and a community relations project with a local school.

On 27 March Taylor got underway and proceeded south to Port Said on the North Coast of Egypt in preparation for her entry into the Suez Canal. TAYLOR transited the canal on 30 March and entered the North Red Sea the next day to turnover with USS CARR and assume Maritime Interdiction duties.

While in theater, TAYLOR hosted visits from Vice Admiral Katz, Commander, US Naval Forces Central Command, and General Hoar, Commander in Chief, U. S. Central Command. Vice Admiral Katz was the first to visit and he addressed the crew at an all hands awards ceremony on the foc'sle. His comments concerned interdiction operations and TAYLOR's vital role in this key part of the world. The Admiral noted the United States calming effect on this troubled area. On the heels of the Admiral's visit, General Hoar transferred to TAYLOR by small boat to address the officers and crew. He commented briefly on the effects of Maritime Interdiction Operations as a deterrent to aggressor nations and on the future of the U.S presence in the area. TAYLOR had three port visits in the North Red Sea, all of them in Hurghada, Egypt.

TAYLOR detached from the operation on the 4th of June and transited the canal northbound on the 5th. After crossing the Mediterranean, TAYLOR paid a visit to Palma de Majorca on 8-11 June before continuing west and meeting with the USS SARATOGA Battlegroup for the transit back to the United States. While in the Atlantic Ocean, the battlegroup turned over with the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON and her escorts.

Before returning to the United States, TAYLOR anchored off

the coast of Bermuda to welcome aboard "Tigers" for the short run to homeport. TAYLOR sailed up the Cooper River to homeport for the last time on 24 June. After leave and standdown and a brief Post Deployment IMAV, TAYLOR got underway for a quick transit to her new homeport in Mayport, Florida.

TAYLOR sortied on twenty-four hour notice to participate in Operation Able Vigil in the Florida Straits. After having been on station for less than twenty-four hours, TAYLOR safely embarked over 600 Cuban refugees and set sail for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. TAYLOR offloaded her passengers immediately on mooring and returned to station the same day. The ship spent the rest of her time in the area taking migrants from smaller Coast Guard units and ultimately transferring them to USN amphibious ships for transfer to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. During the course of the operation, TAYLOR made three stops into Key West, Fl.

TAYLOR returned to homeport from the Caribbean on 22 September. After upkeep in Mayport, FL until 3 October TAYLOR set sail to offload weapons at the Weapons Station in Charleston, SC and was back in homeport by 8 October. The ship was underway for one day on the 14th for a dependent's cruise before starting an extensive Selected Restricted Availability (SRA) on 26 October, which lasted the rest of the year. On 2 December, at a ceremony held at the Naval Air Station Mayport, Commander Gregory J. Cornish relieved Commander Christopher P. McNamara as Commanding Officer, USS TAYLOR (FFG-50).